

PATENT

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2631

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ichihara et al.

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this date.

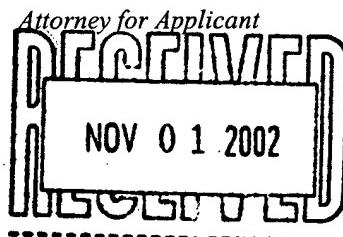
Serial No. 10/045,738

10/17/2002 James K. Tolka  
Date Registration No: 37,538  
F-CLASS. WCM

Filed: October 29, 2001

Appr. February 20, 1998

For: INFORMATION RECORDING AND  
REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND  
METHOD AND SIGNAL DECODING  
CIRCUIT



Art Unit: 2631

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RECEIVED

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

OCT 30 2002

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants through counsel herewith submit copies of the publications as set forth in the attached form PTO-1449 as follows:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>DOCUMENT NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE</u>
5,754,353	Behrens et al.	May 19, 1998
5,889,823	Agazzi et al.	March 30, 1999
6,185,175	Zook	February 6, 2001

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>DOCUMENT NO.</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>DATE</u>
EP 0 801 484 A2	Europe	October 15, 1997
EP 0 801 484 A3	Europe	January 13, 2001
11238320	Japan	August 31, 1999
09251604	Japan	September 22, 1997
03278373	Japan	December 12, 1991
01309549	Japan	December 13, 1989

## PUBLICATIONS

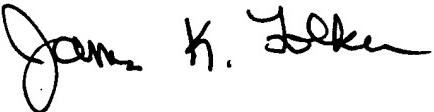
CODING TO IMPROVE SNR IN MAGNETIC RECORDING; Conway T., et al., Electronics Letters, IEE Stevenage, GB, Vol. 32, No. 7, March 28. 1996, Pages 621-622

The enclosed references were cited in a Communication issued by the European Patent Office (copy enclosed). Applicants hereby certify that each of the above items of information was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Statement.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above-listed references in the examination of this application and list these references of record in the application.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.



By

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October 17, 2002

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